

a1
subjecting said quantity of potassium silicate to an ion exchange process to remove a first portion of potassium therefrom to produce a quantity of colloidal silica; and
washing said quantity of colloidal silica with water in an ultrafiltration device to produce a quantity of high purity colloidal silica.

Sub. B16
a2
8. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said ultrafiltration step includes the step of washing said colloidal silica with deionized water.

Sub. B18
a3
18. (Once Amended) A method for producing high purity colloidal silica and a high purity potassium salt, said method comprising the steps of:
providing a quantity of potassium silicate;
subjecting said quantity of potassium silicate to an ion exchange process to remove a first portion of potassium therefrom to produce a quantity of colloidal silica and a potassium enriched ion exchange resin;
washing said quantity of colloidal silica with water in an ultrafiltration device to produce a quantity of high purity colloidal silica;
regenerating said potassium rich ion exchange resin with an acid to produce a potassium salt stream; and
subjecting said potassium salt stream to evaporation and crystallization to remove a portion of sodium therefrom to produce a quantity of high purity potassium salt.